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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2852  
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3221  
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SIPDIS

NEA/ARP, IO/MPR BHACKETT, USUN/MR BRASHKOW

E.O. 12958: N/A  
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SUBJECT: SEEKING KUWAITI SUPPORT FOR JUDGE PAINTER IN UN  
APPEALS TRIBUNAL ELECTION

REF: STATE 16254

¶1. POLCOUNS on February 23 delivered reftel demarche and biographic materials encouraging Kuwait to support U.S. nominee Mark Painter for UN Appeals Tribunal to Dr. Jihad Mohammad Al-Hai, Counselor in the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In response, Al-Hai said he would immediately forward the nonpaper and demarche message to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

¶2. While Al-Hai could not offer a definitive response, he emphasized Kuwait's dedication to strong U.S.-Kuwait relations and assured us that the GOK would give our candidate close consideration.

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JONES